GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:56
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2001
ISSUANCE OF PASSPORTS
RAMANAND SINGH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many cases relating to issuance of passports are pending in different passport offices;

(b) if so, the details in this regard as on June 30, 2001, passport office-wise;

(c) the reasons for delay in the issuance of passports with in the stipulated period; and

(d) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

a) Yes, Sir

b) Details are as at Annexure-I.

c) There are various reasons for delay in issue of passports such as a 19 percent increase in the receipt of applications and issue of passports in the first six months of the current year, shortage of staff in the Central Passport Organisation and irregular supply of passport booklets.

d) The simplification and streamlining of procedure, for issue of passports is an ongoing process. Among the measures taken to expedite processing of passport applications are: computerisation of processing procedures, provision for dispatch of passport by speed post, introduction of machine writing of passports and expediting police verification reports with the Passport Officers holding regular consultation with the police authorities in their respective areas. The Pendency situation in each Passport Office is monitored on a weekly basis and staff from other Passport Offices has been deployed at Passport Office, Ahmedabad to reduce the pendencies in that office. The process of decentralization of passport services through Speed Post centers has been introduced in several passport offices since March 2001.

ANNEXURE-I

APPLICATIONS PENDING IN VARIOUS PASSPORT OFFICES AS ON 30.6.2001.

S.No.	Name of Passport Office	No. of applications pending
1.	AHMEDABAD	25370
2.	BANGALORE	3615
3.	BAREILLY	643
4.	BHOPAL	7
5.	BHUBANESHWAR	0
6.	CHANDIGARH	3815
7	CHENNAI	3225

8. COCHIN	251
9. DELHI	4431
10. GHAZIABAD	1541
11. GUWAHATI	38
12. HYDERABAD	13678
13. JAIPUR	2717
14. JALANDHAR	1456
15. JAMMU	170
16. KOLKATA	1334
17. KOZHIKODE	1722
18. LUCKNOW	3523
19. MUMBAI	849
20. NAGPUR	0
21. PANAJI	105
22. PATNA	140
23. PUNE	0
24. SRINAGAR	912
25. THANE	1600
26. TRICHY	4347
27. TRIVANDRUM	592
28. VISAKHAPATNAM	188
TOTAL	76269

+ An application is considered pending only when it is accurately completed without any objection where a police clearance has been received but on which a passport has not been issued by a Passport Office within five weeks of the application being filed.